

Town of Embden

Minutes of the Board of Selectpersons

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December 5, 2011

7:00 PM Meeting held at the Embden Town Office

In attendance was: Robert Dunphy, Pam Graf, Eleanor Ketchum, Scott Lehay, Leo Mayo, Wayne McLaughlin, Elizabeth Pratt, Charles Taylor, Edwin Thebarger, Wendy Witham, and Bonnie Baker.

- 1 Charles Taylor called the meeting to order at 18:56.
- 2 The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3 **Consent Agenda:**
 - 3.1 Approved the minutes of the Board of Selectpersons dated November 21, 2011. Accepted as written.(3-0)
 - 3.2 Reviewed Warrant #23 totaling \$43,660.35. (3-0)
- 4 **Appointments & Resignations:** None
- 5 **Department Officials Reports:**
 - 5.1 **E-911** – E. Ketchum stated there hadn't been much business. She said that Augusta had been in Embden looking into new roads, and told her that they were just like she had sent them.
 - 5.2 **Winter Roads Contractor** – No Report.
 - 5.3 **Animal Control** –
 - 5.3.1 B. Baker submitted reports from ACO. Selectpersons reviewed and accepted. (3-0)
 - 5.3.2 P. Graf stated things had been quiet. She added that the only problem was dealing with the animal shelter. She said it seemed like a lot of money for the volume of calls the town had.
 - 5.4 **Board of Assessors** – E. Thebarger said everything was going good. He stated that he did not understand why a building permit was not required under 200sf. He said he had a situation in Snow Shoe Village where someone had taken off part of a camp, moved it over, and made it into a garage. He stated that of he had not seen this; the owner would have paid an extra \$300-400 in taxes each year. He added that he had spoken with the CEO, who was willing to issue permits for buildings less than 200sf at no cost. R. Dunphy stated that most of the time in this case, a building notification, made up of the first page of the permit application, would be done. L. Mayo stated that the town would need an ordinance requiring it. Discussion continued.
 - 5.5 **Planning Board** –
 - 5.5.1 L. Mayo said things were quieting down.
 - 5.5.2 He asked the town to purchase 10 copies of the 2012 Land Use Laws.
 - 5.5.3 E. Pratt made a motion (2nd – C. Taylor) to refund the \$25 application fee to Carol lee Bagley because a permit was not needed. (3-0)
 - 5.6 **Plumbing Inspector** –
 - 5.6.1 L. Mayo said it had been a slow year.
 - 5.6.2 C. Taylor asked who enforced the pumping schedule for holding tanks. R. Dunphy stated it was usually set-up by the company that installed the system.
 - 5.7 **Board of Appeals** – S. Lehay stated they had not had anything.
 - 5.8 **Code Enforcement Officer** –
 - 5.8.1 R. Dunphy stated things were slow.
 - 5.8.2 L. Mayo asked whether there had been anything done without a permit. E. Thebarger stated that there was one on the Hancock Pond Road. R. Dunphy stated he had been out there, but was unable to find it. E. Thebarger stated the owner had torn down a building, and built a new one 2 feet from the high water mark. Discussion continued.
 - 5.9 **Health Officer** – R. Dunphy stated he had nothing to report.
 - 5.10 **Road Commissioner** – No Report.
 - 5.11 **M.S.A.D. #74** – No Report.
 - 5.12 **Recreational Director** – C. Taylor stated W. Witham had told him that approximately 30 people had shown up for the Ski Club sign-up. He said she planned to do track and British soccer next year.
 - 5.13 **Town Clerk/Treasurer** – B. Baker submitted a draft of the audit from the auditor.
 - 5.14 **Tax Collector:** B. Baker stated R. Blake wanted off December 22-23, and the week between Christmas and New Years. W. McLaughlin made a motion (2nd - E. Pratt) to close the office on December 23 for Christmas. (3-0)
 - 5.15 **Withdrawal from MSAD#74 Fact Finding Group** – C. Taylor stated he thought the topic had fizzled out.
 - 5.16 **Community Center** –
 - 5.16.1 W. McLaughlin stated they had about 81 people for the Marden's Lady, and had cleared about \$400.
 - 5.16.2 He said there would be a kids table setup on Wednesday so kids could buy inexpensive Christmas presents.
 - 5.16.3 E. Pratt stated the Cub Scouts would have caroling on the 20th at 5pm.
 - 5.16.4 W. McLaughlin mentioned there would be church services on December 24th and 25th
 - 5.16.5 He said the thrift store was doing well.

- 5.16.6 He stated Eric Creamer would plow for \$100 per storm, and sand for \$50 per storm. He added that Jeff Goodwin would shovel. E. Pratt stated they would probably do the roof as needed.
- 5.16.7 W. McLaughlin asked if the BOS could check into the price of putting a light on the pole across from the north driveway of the Community Center. He asked B. Baker to call about pricing.
- 5.16.8 E. Pratt stated the Community Club had turned in another \$1,000 to the town.
- 5.17 Emergency Management Directors –**
 - 5.17.1 R. Dunphy stated he hoped the generator would be done by town meeting. He added they should know by mid-February whether the building had been approved as a Red Cross shelter. E. Pratt stated they should consider being a warming center, where people could go and sit so they could turn their furnaces down at home. Discussion continued.
 - 5.17.2 C. Taylor asked R. Dunphy to submit a report for the town report.
- 6 Board of Selectpersons Concerns:**
 - 6.1 C. Taylor stated he had spoken to P. Hellinski about the flagpole light. He said P. Hellinski told him that someone had changed the angle of the light causing the failure, therefore he would do the repairs but at the town's cost. C. Taylor stated he and his wife would buy a new light. W. McLaughlin stated he felt the BOS needed to insist that he guarantee his work, and if he wouldn't then the town should involve an attorney. E. Pratt said she thought they should pursue it. R. Dunphy asked why they needed an attorney involved. He asked why the BOS couldn't just write their own letter stating they would not recommend him for any more jobs. C. Taylor agreed to work on a letter for the next meeting. W. McLaughlin stated P. Hellinski should be made to take everything out and start over. Discussion continued. W. McLaughlin said if C. Taylor bought the light, he would put it up. E. Pratt made a motion (2nd – C. Taylor) that W. McLaughlin installs a light on the corner of the town office to shine on the flag and the parking lot. (3-0) C. Taylor stated he would buy it.
- 7 Old Business:**
 - 7.1 **Town of Embden Policies:** None
 - 7.2 **Community Center Policies:** S. Lehay asked whether the BOS had heard anything back on the alcohol and vendor policies. He said when they had come back, he had made the changes. E. Pratt made a motion (2nd – W. McLaughlin) to accept the Alcohol Policy and Vendor Contract as submitted and amended by S. Lehay, and as reviewed and approved by MMA and Ken Lexier. (3-0) S. Lehay stated he would email copies.
- 8 New Business:**
 - 8.1 **Somerset Humane Society 2011 Contract:** BOS reviewed and signed.
 - 8.2 **Community Center Funds (December 31, 2010 Amounts):** C. Taylor read email from auditor. Discussion continued. Motion was made and rescinded. No action was taken.
 - 8.3 **Lease of Community Center Building to Embden Community Club:** C. Taylor said the group had talked about becoming its own entity. S. Lehay stated it was a 501C, but not a C3, qualifying for state exemption, but not federal. He asked the BOS to give the Community Club a written contract saying they could run the building, with the town heating, insuring and maintaining it. He said the Community Club would get its own insurance for club liability. He stated the lease should be from January 1, 2012 to March 2013. He said he didn't mind doing up the lease, and sending it to Ernie Hilton to look it over. He added it would basically be the same as now, only getting the liability off of the town. Discussion continued. C. Taylor stated they would need a final statement from R. Blake on 12/31.
- 9 Correspondence:**
 - 9.1 C. Taylor stated that the smart meter installations in Embden were 79% complete as of 11/29.
 - 9.2 E. Thebarger submitted paperwork. C. Taylor stated they would review it at the next work session.
 - 9.3 BOS reviewed remaining correspondence.
- 10 Community Relations, Announcements, and Open Public Forum:**
 - 10.1 Open Public Forum:**
 - 10.1.1 E. Thebarger asked whether the BOS had done anything for the permitting for the dam. Discussion continued.
- 11 Executive Session (Non-Public)(ME§405)**
- 12 Next Meeting Announcement & Adjournment**
 - 12.1 Next Regular Selectperson's Meeting – Monday, December 19, 2011. B. Baker stated she may be a few minutes late due to a Christmas program at her daughter's school. She asked C. Taylor to take notes until she got there.
 - 12.2 C. Taylor stated the BOS would have a work session on December 14th at 17:30.
 - 12.3 Motion to adjourn made by E. Pratt (2nd - W. McLaughlin). Adjourned 20:08 (3-0).

*Minutes submitted by:
Bonnie A. Baker*